

Heterosexuals forming new group

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An informational meeting of the newly-formed Heterosexual Society turned into a shouting match about homosexuality in the Campanile Room of the Memorial Union Wednesday night.

DeAnn Backes, president and founder of the society, told a crowd of about 20 people she formed the organization to promote the heterosexual lifestyle.

She also said heterosexuality is

the only biologically correct lifestyle.

"I was hoping they'd be more proactive than reactive."

— James Schafer
president of ISU LGBA

Lisa Waldner-Haugrud, a graduate student and teaching assistant in sociology, voiced disapproval of the society, saying, "The reason

they're starting the group is they don't like gay people."

However, another audience member said, "homosexuality is a disease. Gay people are wrong."

"Will you start to quote me some researchers here?" Waldner-Haugrud asked. She said the American Psychological Association does not list homosexuality as a disease.

James Schafer, Iowa State's Lesbian/Gay Bisexual Alliance president, said he had hoped the Hetero-

Society to promote heterosexual rights, censorship issues

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sexual Society would be a support group to deal with heterosexual issues rather than just gay-bashing.

"I was hoping they'd be more proactive than reactive," Schafer said.

Backes said there is "a lot of disinformation out there," and said she disagreed with a report that said 10 percent of the population is gay.

She said the information the media releases is "quite unbelievable."

Backes said homosexuality is becoming a "learned behavior" because the media coverage of gay issues is "blown out of proportion."

Waldner-Haugrud said she attended the meeting in the hopes the society would address heterosexual issues such as domestic violence, teenage pregnancy and date rape.

Waldner-Haugrud also asked if the society planned on discussing heterosexual issues such as AIDS.

"AIDS is not a heterosexual disease," Backes said.

But Schafer told the *Daily*, "AIDS is a heterosexual issue."

He said 5 percent of AIDS cases in Iowa were contracted through heterosexual intercourse.

Backes and prospective members also discussed the issue of censorship.

The group cited an incident last semester in which two Helser residents were placed on academic probation for displaying anti-gay material on their door.

Waldner-Haugrud said the society should seek the advice of the American Civil Liberties Union in dealing with censorship.

Backes also addressed the issue of heterosexual rights and said a lot of people are threatened by the gay lobby.

She said the Heterosexual Society plans to hold a "heterosexual pride week," next fall.